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NO. 4,842.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1896.—COPYRIGHT, 1896, BY W. R. HEARST.

PRICE ONE CENT.

DETECTIVE BUREAU IS IN DESPAIR.

Captain O'Brien Has Little Hope of Securing the Dennett Robbers.

Could Easily Locate the Operators, but Who Would Be Able to Identify Them?

Charges Preferred Against the Three Policemen Who Were on Duty.

OPINION OF A SAFE EXPERT.

Says the Strong Boxes Were Simply Proof and the Crooks Who Attacked Them Amateurs, Who Took Unnecessary Trouble.

Between the hours of 12:30 a. m. and 4:30 p. m. Sunday crooks entered Dennett's Park restaurant and robbed it of \$1,000. The restaurant is closed by the proprietors for the twenty-four hours beginning at midnight Saturday. The interior, however, is brightly lighted and open to the inspection of police and passers-by at all hours of the day and night, and the boldness of the crime was its most startling feature.

Police officials confess that the mystery of the Dennett robbery is almost impossible of solution. Captain O'Brien and Captain Thompson, and men both higher and lower in rank, say that there seems no possible chance of catching the men who robbed the five safes in Dennett's Park restaurant, Sunday. Absolutely no clue was left behind. The detectives admit that there are a number of men in the city who have the skill and the disposition to do such work. They say they could arrest any one of these men within twenty-four hours, but they have no evidence to fasten the crime upon them. The crooks took nothing from the safes except money, and left nothing behind except such tools as can be bought for a trifling sum at any hardware store in the city.

As a result, the detectives are doing nothing. They visited the scene of the robbery yesterday, examined the wrecked safes, asked questions, looked wise, and went away. Then they talked about men who might have done the job, and said they could catch the suspects at any moment. In spite of this talk, not one of these detectives would say that he really had hopes of catching and convicting the safe robbers.

Captain O'Brien was a matter of form he went to the restaurant and looked at the wrecked safes. Then he picked a hole in the paper pasted over the door from which the burglars cut the glass and went away.

CAPTAIN O'BRIEN'S OPINION.
 "I can guess who did the job," he said, "but what good does it do? Suppose we arrest them, who is going to identify them? No one saw them go in or come out, and as they took nothing except money, they cannot be identified by the stolen property. They belong to a high class of crooks, and take no chances. They would not rob a house, and very seldom would enter a building in which any one sleeps. They pick out deserted office buildings, where, with little danger, they can make a good haul."

"We may arrive at a conclusion as to what men did the work, but that is as far as we can go. This case will end as did the robbery of Brentano's. In that case I am sure we caught the right men, but there was no one to identify them and we had to let them go."
 While the police were looking wise and doing nothing, the managers of Dennett's were looking worried and doing much. They hustled around and examined the safes, talked with the detectives, and during the dull hours were busier than they usually are in the rush time. By noon the directors of the company which runs the restaurant had been apprised of the robbery. Most of them had read of it in the morning papers, and telegrams from

Manager Swalm notifying them of the crime contained no news. By 1 o'clock all of those who were in the city or who could get there were in Mr. Swalm's room on the third floor of the building. There they remained in private session for two hours, refusing admittance even to the detectives, who, to while away the time, went down to the floor below and bought butter cakes and coffee.

The meeting came to an end shortly after 3 o'clock, and the directors went away. They refused to tell the nature of the discussion, or what they thought of the robbery, beyond saying that no reward would be offered.

CONSIDERED FINE WORK.
 That the robbery was the work of professional thieves the police have no doubt. The police say it was as well executed a piece of work as they have had a chance to examine in many a day. Five safes were opened, but on only one did the crooksman display their ability. This one is now almost unmarked, so far as the outer door is concerned. Here the only sign of violence is a hole five-eighths of an inch in diameter, cut through the outer casing not far from the combination. This proved so easy to open that no pains were taken with the other four, and they were wrenched apart in any way.

An expert safe opener, employed by the Marvin Safe Company, who examined the work of the crooksman, did not have nearly so high an opinion of the thieves as did the police. "It was an easy thing to open those safes," he said, "and the men were not experts, or they would not have made all this hard work for themselves. The safes attacked were nearly all of the cheapest kind. There was no pretense made that they were burglar proof. One of them was purchased from our firm some years ago. It was a second-hand affair at the time, and was built fully twenty years ago. It was about five feet high and was an old-fashioned one at that."

It has been said that the safes were specially made for Dennett's. This is an old-fashioned one at that. That is absolutely false and they were worth on the average not more than \$40 each. An expert, who had destroyed his business, could have opened each one in twenty minutes or half an hour and not have worked so hard. These men seem to have wanted to work hard, or else to do all the damage they could, and the latter idea is hardly probable.

NOT A BURGLAR-PROOF SAFE.
 "The safes themselves are comparatively flimsy affairs. They are simply of sheet iron, with about four inches of fire-proof filling between the front and back plates of the doors and sides. This filling is made of a combination of plaster of paris and chemicals, and affords no protection save against fire. The outside plates of some of the safes are one-quarter inch thick, and those of the others are one-half inch thick. This difference is of no effect, and would waste the time required to open them by ten minutes."

"The safe on the ground floor of the restaurant is torn to pieces. It is an old-style '22 flange' safe, and a man who understood his business could have opened it quickly by merely boring a half-inch hole through the combination. There would have been no necessity for explosives or for the use of force. In fact the easiest and quickest way is the scientific way. From the fact that this easy way was not used, I judge that the men were not experts, though they were probably 'professionals' in that they make a living by such work. There is no secret as to the manner of making safes, or their combinations, and if the crooksman had been well posted, they would have known at first sight what an easy thing they had before them."
 The way in which all but the first safe was opened was crude in the extreme. Holes were bored through the outer plate of the door near the edge. Through this hole they were able to reach the 'carrying bar.' This is the steel or iron rod to which the bolts are attached and which connects with a rod by means of which they are opened or closed by turning the knob. When the combination is turned a bolt slips down and holds the rod and carrying bar stationary. The thieves made no attempt to release the carrying bar, which could have been easily accomplished. Instead they worked a 'jimmy' into the hole they had made by means of a screw driver, and, by means of the jimmy, they bent the carrying bar. In doing this they bent the part of the bolt work that is checked by the combination.

WERE INEXPERIENCED.

"That they did not know their business is shown by this. In some of the safes they bored two or three holes before they were able to use the 'jimmy.' If they had known the right way one small hole would have been sufficient and no further expenditure of strength would have been necessary."
 "I do not think the men who did this job had anything to do with the Brentano robbery. That was done in an entirely different way, though the safe was of the same kind. In that robbery the outer plate was cut close to the combination and enough gunpowder put so to break the lock to pieces. That was not a well-executed job, and was probably done by men of the same class as the thieves at Dennett's."

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TONGUE FROZE TO COLD IRON.

Young Alfred Kreiger Meets with a Singular Accident.

Fell While on His Way to School, and His Tongue Struck a Coal Hole Cover.

Held with His Face to the Ground, While a Crowd Gathered and Made Wise Suggestions.

HOT SCOTCH USED WITH EFFECT.

The Boy Finally Released, but His Tongue Swelled Up, and He May Possibly Lose Part of It.

Alfred Kreiger, a bright young schoolboy living in East Ninety-second street, met with a remarkable accident yesterday which may result in the loss of part of his tongue. Alfred's eagerness to reach school early in the morning was the cause of the accident.

Those who know Alfred will be sorry to learn of his accident, for he is renowned in the neighborhood as a bright lad. Without his tongue, or even if he lose only a part of it, Alfred will be unable to recite his lessons in school in the manner that has often won for him the silver medal of excellence.

Alfred won the medal last week, and he started out yesterday morning to win new laurels for this week. He lives with his parents and sister Louisa on the top floor of No. 348 East Ninety-second street. In the same house live Harry Duram and Hugo Martine, Alfred's schoolmates. He waited for these boys to accompany him to school yesterday, but Hugo was dilatory, and when they started there were but a few minutes to spare before the school bell would ring.

SLIPPED ON THE ICE.
 Hurrying across the improvised bridge built across the excavation in front of the unfinished building, Nos. 342 and 344 East Ninety-second street, the boys slipped on some ice and fell down the steps leading from the bridge.

Alfred's face struck the iron cover of a coal hole and he was stunned for a moment, but when he attempted to arise he found that his tongue was glued to the iron cover. His companions were not injured. They tried to release Alfred from his uncomfortable position, but his tongue was stuck fast and resisted all their efforts. The lads decided the best thing to do was to raise an alarm, which they did, with the result that a crowd collected around Alfred, who, lying prostrate on the cold pavement, was rapidly becoming chilled.

Nearly every one in the crowd had some suggestion to offer, but no one seemed to understand how to relieve the lad from his predicament. Some one suggested that salt be placed on the iron cover around the boy's tongue, but another said that the salt would act the same as it does when placed on ice in an ice-cream freezer. Another offered to pry off the iron cover and take both the cover and the boy into a warm room, but it was said this could not be done without lacerating Alfred's tongue.

Saloon keeper Henry Strippel, whose place is directly opposite the spot where Alfred was lying, saw the boy's predicament, and hurrying across to his saloon returned with a glass filled with a steaming liquid. It was a hot Scotch, not so hot that it would burn the boy's tongue, but not enough for thawing purposes. The saloon keeper slowly poured the contents of the glass around the spot to which Alfred's tongue was sticking.

"Is it loosening?" asked the saloon keeper, bending over Alfred. The lad made a sound which was interpreted as meaning that the hot Scotch was doing its work, and another glassful was brought. It only required a few drops more to release the lad, who was gently lifted to his feet and taken home. His tongue began to swell, and was quite sore.

Alfred will be able to go to school in a few days unless complications arise. His companions were late when they reached school, but their teacher, Miss McClusker, excused them when she learned what had happened, and sent word to Alfred that he could keep the silver medal for another week and that he need not worry about his lessons until he got better. Today is the twelfth anniversary of Alfred's birth.

Continued on Second Page.

GUESTS AWED BY HER RED WRAPPER.

Mrs. Gunning's Pose at Her Stepdaughters' Musicales Was a Surprise.

Held a Lighted Candle Aloft and Then Walked Off with the Nut Cake.

Miss "Gussie" Said That Her Step-mother Hit Her Because She Was Going to Nyack.

RIDING WHIP USED ON MARION.

Held Her Down in Bed with Her Knee Until the Punishment Was Ended. Threw Plates at Harry for Chopping Up Potatoes.

Rev. Dr. Josiah H. Gunning, formerly pastor of the Bedford Avenue Baptist Church, Brooklyn, and now practicing medicine, is being sued by his wife for a separation.



Miss Louisa Augusta Gunning and Her Sister.

They were witnesses yesterday at the trial of Mrs. Mary C. Gunning's suit for a separation from her husband, Rev. Dr. Josiah Henry Gunning. Miss "Gussie" swore that her stepmother had decorated the house with stale leaves of bread, and had once struck her on the hand with the heel of her slipper. When the Gunning girls gave a musicale one evening the stepmother appeared on the landing opposite the parlor, dressed in a red wrapper and holding a lighted candle in her hand. Miss Gunning testified further that her sister Marion, when seven years old, had been punished by the plaintiff with a riding whip. Her testimony was corroborated by her younger sister Grace.

aration. She claims that he treated her cruelly, and on one occasion, during a row in their room, gave her a black eye. (She alleges further that on another occasion, while she was dressing, he hit her twice on the back. In his defense he denies the charges and alleges that his wife was unnecessarily harsh in the treatment of his children, and that once she struck him in the face.)

By far the most interesting day of the trial of Mrs. Mary C. Gunning's suit for a separation from her husband, Rev. Dr. Josiah Henry Gunning, life insurance president, preacher and physician, was yesterday's session. The events disclosed during the preceding four days were of such a lively character that long before the time set for opening the doors of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn, where Justice Van Wyck was to sit, scores of persons gathered there clamoring for admission.

At each door to the little courtroom a man stood, to keep out those whose sole motive was curiosity. They all pleaded for admittance. Some were friends of either "Dear Mrs. Gunning" or "poor Dr. Gunning"; some had sat beneath the Doctor's pulpit in the Bedford Avenue Baptist Church in his preaching days, while others are talking his prescribed remedies at the present time. In spite of all these declarations they were turned away, and thereby missed hearing the story of the domestic troubles of the Gunning family. In the courtroom the Gunning forces were

Continued on Second Page.

FRIGHTENED GIRLS LEAP TO THEIR DEATH.

Fire in a Troy Collar Factory Spreads Panic and Disaster.

Many Were Injured and Still Others May Have Perished in the Flames.

Some of Those Who Jumped Caught in the Life Nets by the Fire-men and Were Saved.

FIGHTING FIRE WITH FROZEN HOSE.

The Windows of the Upper Floors Crowded with Frenzied Women, While on the Stairways Men and Girls Were Trampled Under Foot.

Troy, N. Y., Feb. 17.—In one of the most serious and fierce fires, while the collar factories of this place have known, three

many of the women succeeded in getting down the fire escapes in safety. One remained in a window until the flames reached her, when she either fell or threw herself to the pavement below. Three others threw themselves from a window to escape the awful heat. The entire Fire Department responded, but the intense cold had frozen some of the fire plugs, and the water supply was impeded for some time. A strong wind was blowing, and the flames burst from every window on the upper floors. The stairways of the building were crowded with the terrified men and women, who fought desperately in their mad efforts to escape. Many jumped from the windows, but were caught in the life nets held by the firemen and escaped with comparatively slight injuries. The three who were killed were removed to Millard's undertaking rooms, where they were identified. The fire started on the top floor, owing, it is said, to a lighted match being accidentally dropping into a pile of waste. Within half an hour after the alarm the entire building was in flames. Suddenly the south wall fell, crushing the adjoining building, owned by Elias G. Dorlin, which was occupied by Mahar Brothers' saloon, the Kenmore saloon, and a music store. This building was destroyed. The total loss will be between \$300,000 and \$400,000. The fire occurred just at the time when the streets were filled with people, mainly collar girls on their way to their homes. The thermometer was several degrees below zero, but this fact did not disturb the crowd, which remained at the scene for several hours.

A GIRL'S QUEER REQUEST.

Seeks a Permit to Wear Male Attire That She May Test Her Lover's Faithfulness.

Bridgeport, Conn., Feb. 17.—A pretty young woman accosted Officer Burns at the depot this morning, and with much confusion told him she was Miss Hattie Wilcox, of Milford, and that she must immediately see the Superintendent of Police. On reaching the station, she insisted upon having all the doors closed before she would disclose to the superintendent the object of her visit.

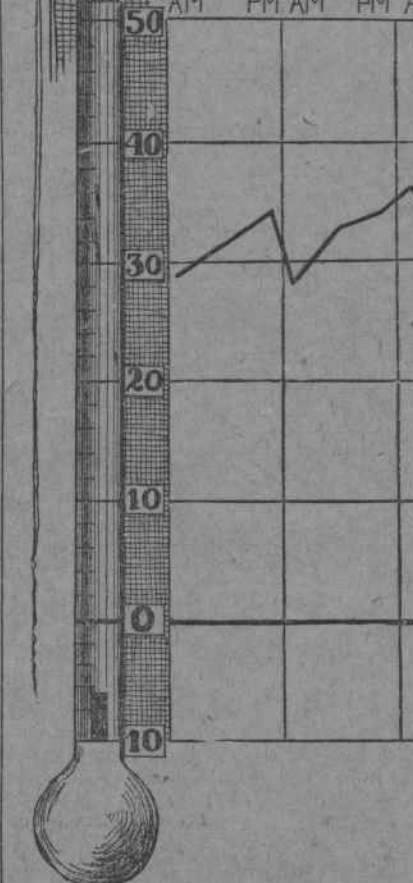
With many blushes, she confided to the officer that she was deeply in love with a young man whose charms had won the hearts of other young women besides her own; and that she was very anxious to know how true were his many protestations of care and affection.

"Now, Mr. Officer," she said, "I read in the papers that young men are too often gay deceivers, and I must know for myself whether the young man I love so deeply and am keeping company with, is as he says he is, or is deceiving me. Mr. Officer, I should be heartbroken if he were

false and now, before it is too late, I must know the truth with my own eyes. I have worried a great deal over all this, and the only way I can see what to do is just to be close to him when he doesn't expect it. So I have thought it over and have concluded that if I can only wear men's clothes I can find out what I want to know. Now, will you give me a permit so that I need not be sent to jail if I am found out?"

The officer quickly saw his opportunity and told her she would have to return to Milford and first get the permit there.

BURNETT'S EXTRACT OF VANILLA. In purity and strength pre-eminently superior. Make a note of it. Twenty-five cents buys the best flavoring out. Salvation Oil. **



THE MERCURY'S RANGE FOR EIGHT DAYS ENDING AT NOON, YESTERDAY

The rapid descent of the mercury from 8 p. m. Sunday to 8 a. m. Monday, and the depth of the descent has only been surpassed in fall began Saturday at 8 p. m., and was continuous for 36 hours. The total

many of the women succeeded in getting down the fire escapes in safety.

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IT WILL BE SHORT-LIVED.
 Observed Dunn, of the Weather Bureau, said that the frost line reached away down over most of Georgia and Alabama and through the Tennessee and Arkansas valleys. The weather will continue cold to

Washington, D. C., Feb. 17.—Chief Willis L. Moore, of the Weather Bureau, has issued the following statement regarding the cold wave: The temperature will probably fall to about freezing in extreme northern Florida, but its force seems to be nearly spent in that district. The weather will continue cold to-night in the Atlantic States, but will be warmer by Tuesday night.

The weather was colder yesterday in this city than on any other day within the past twenty-five years. The mercury at 8 a. m. dropped to 6.4 degrees below zero. This was the lowest point reached. Only twice before in the history of the New York Weather Bureau, which was established in 1871, has this record been approached, namely, on January 10, 1875, and on December 31, 1880, and on both days the mercury reached 6 degrees below.

The tumble in the thermometer was remarkably sudden. At 4 p. m. on Saturday it registered 32 above. At 8 a. m. on Sunday it was 30 above. Snow was falling and melting as it fell. The Weather Bureau was on the lookout Saturday night for a cold wave from the lake region and received orders from Washington to fly the cold wave signal and to send out warning notices. The fall was even greater than the predictors believed it would be. At midnight Saturday the thermometer was only 6 degrees above, and it dropped at the rate of from 1 to 2 degrees an hour until 4 a. m., when zero was reached. The mercury kept climbing down until 8 a. m., when it began slowly to ascend.

The freezer came from the Northwest. Saturday night the highest barometric pressure was near Winnipeg. Sunday night it was over the great lakes. Yesterday it was in Canada, and a town named Rockliffe was "right in its midst." The weather was extra cold in Rockliffe; in fact, this town was the coldest spot on this hemisphere where records are taken. The mercury sank to 34 below at that point. The coldest place in the United States was Northfield, Vt. There it was 22 below. There were a number of other towns and cities where frostbite had been reported. Among them were Albany, 16 below; Oswego, 18 below; Boston, 12 below; Portland, Me., 14 below; Montreal and Quebec, each 24 below.

Bismarck, N. D., is usually one of the coldest towns in the United States, but it escaped the cold wave this time. It basked in 40 degrees above yesterday. This is an indication of milder weather that is close upon the heels of the cold wave. West of Pittsburgh and the lower lakes the weather was reported to be moderating. At Chicago and St. Paul it was 8 above, and further northwest still warmer. The entire East, however, was covered by the cold wave. Even Jacksonville shivered from it. It was 44 above down there, which is quite chilly for Jacksonville.

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COLDEST DAY IN THIRTY YEARS.

Not Since January, 1866, Has the Mercury Been as Low as Yesterday.

But Thrice in Seventy-four Years Has Colder Weather Been Recorded Here.

The Wave Came from the Northwest and Caused a Fall of 36 degrees in Twenty-four Hours.

WARMER WEATHER IS COMING.

No Skating in Central Park Yet, but Van Cortlandt and Crotona Lakes Expected to Be Ready for the Red Ball This Afternoon.

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